

Faculty Workshops ~ March 2014

Keeping Students Engaged in the Large Lecture Class

Thursday, Mar. 6, 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m., SUB 235

How do you keep 200 students focused on a physics lecture?

Some days you use demos like the “bed of death,” but most days the techniques used are less extreme. Come learn and share ideas for capturing the interest of a large crowd of students (and holding it for 50 minutes). We will discuss the role of integrating inquiry learning with the lecture format. We will also explore the benefits of including peer instruction.



Presenter: Greg Francis, Professor, Department of Physics, and Engaged Teaching Fellow, Center for Faculty Excellence. Dr. Francis was one of two President’s Excellence in Teaching Award winners in 2001, and has consistently been nominated for the honor every year since. A student responding to a recent MSU Senior Survey shared these comments regarding taking a physics course under Dr. Francis: *“This is one of the best courses offered on campus. Greg Francis is a genius professor, and cares deeply about his students. He teaches physics in a way that is accessible to almost anybody, and regardless of your interest or major, you will gain lifelong knowledge and a more broad way of thinking. Everyone should take this class to get the best out of MSU.”*

Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. and the session will begin at 12:00 noon.

Registration is required by 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, Mar. 5; to register, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JSDY67J>